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LETTER DATED 9 SEPTEMBER 1994 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF CROATIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Upon instructions from my Government, I have to express the serious concerns of the Republic of Croatia regarding the most recent military developments in the occupied territories of Croatia, where the Serbian paramilitary units in United Nations protected area (UNPA) Sector North have undertaken a strong military offensive against the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The information available to my Government leads us to believe that the Serbian attack is unfolding from the occupied territories of Croatia into the territory of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and that it includes up to 1,000 military personnel and over 10 tanks.

It is completely unacceptable for the Republic of Croatia to tolerate that actions by the Belgrade proxies in power in the occupied territories of Croatia against a neighbouring and friendly sovereign country, a Member of the United Nations, the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, continue unabated.

I would like to draw your attention to my letter of 2 March 1994 (S/1994/241) addressed to you predecessor, where I have expressed the concern of my Government at the fact that the flight of the aircraft that were subject to North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) enforcement action over Bosnia and Herzegovina originated in UNPA Sector South and terminated there on the military airfield in Udbina. On that occasion, the territory of the Republic of Croatia was used for military actions by Serbian paramilitary forces in Bosnia. On several subsequent occasions the Belgrade proxies in the occupied territories of Croatia have supported Bosnian Serb paramilitary units with heavy artillery. Now these hostile military activities are increasing to the point that a considerable number of ground troops and equipment, including armour, have been unabatedly crossing the border of Croatia into Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The present situation underscores the urgent need for the Security Council finally to begin implementing its own decisions, including the Vance Plan, which provides for the disbandment and demobilization of all paramilitary units in the UNPAs, and resolution 769 (1992) of 7 August 1992, which provides for the effective control of Croatian international borders that coincide with the boundaries of UNPAs. Furthermore, the present actions of Serbian authorities in

the occupied territories of the Republic of Croatia constitute a serious violation of the Zagreb cease-fire agreement of 29 March 1994 by pursuing military action.

My Government considers that the coordinated action of Serbian occupying forces in Croatia and of Bosnian Serbs is aimed, inter alia, at destabilizing the wider region, and that it gravely jeopardizes the territorial integrity of the Republic of Croatia and the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Further, the present situation effectively prevents the return of tens of thousands of refugees from the Bihac region presently in the occupied territories of Croatia to their homes in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Therefore, my Government would like to associate itself with the requests that Bihac and its surroundings be proclaimed "exclusion zones", and that the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR) be immediately instructed to take control of Croatian borders.

I would request for your kind assistance in distributing this letter as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mario NOBILO
Ambassador
Permanent Representative